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In the Claims

Please replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application with the following list of claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A composition of matter comprising: a compound having a structure of Formula I

$$X_2 - L_2 - A - L_1 - X_1$$

wherein A is an agent; L_1 and L_2 are organic linkers or bonds; X_1 and X_2 are reactive moieties

N-hydroxy-succinimide, N-alkyl maleimide and derivatives thereof; and

wherein R is an organic or inorganic molecule, and

wherein L_2 and X_2 may be present or absent, however if L_2 is absent, then X_2 is also absent.

2. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of a sunscreen agent, a cosmetic, an enzyme, a coloring agent, a pharmaceutical agent, a member of a ligand/receptor pair, a tissue sealant, a bulking agent, a hair conditioning agent, a hair fixative, a coloring agent, a moisturizing agent, a depilatory agent, an anti-nerve gas agent, a film forming agent, a vitamin, an insect repellant and a component of a high affinity noncovalent coupling.

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3. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the agent is an enzyme that degrades nerve agents.

- 4. (Currently Amended) The composition of claim 3, wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of <u>organophosphorus acid anhydrolase</u> (OPAA) anhydrolase and squid type organophosphorus acid (OPA) anhydrase.
- 5. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the agent is a nonprotein.
- 6. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the agent in its native form free of conjugation to the reactive molecule is not able to covalently attach to a body tissue.
- 7. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein the composition does not comprise a microparticle.
- 8. (Original) The composition of claim 1, wherein X_1 , X_2 or X_1 and X_2 is dihydroxyacetone.
- 9. (Currently Amended) A method for attaching an agent to a body tissue comprising: applying to the body tissue a compound having a structure of Formula I

$$X_2 - L_2 - A - L_1 - X_1$$

wherein A is the agent; L₁ and L₂ are organic linkers or bonds; X₁ and X₂ are reactive moieties

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N-hydroxy-succinimide and N-alkyl maleimide; and

wherein R is an organic or inorganic molecule, and

wherein L_2 and X_2 may be present or absent, however if L_2 is absent, then X_2 is also absent in an effective amount, and

allowing said attachingerosslinking to occur.

- 10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the body tissue is selected from the group consisting of the integument, skin, hair, and nails, a wound bed, and internal body tissue.
- 11. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of a cosmetic agent, a bulking agent, a hair conditioning agent, a hair fixative, a sunscreen agent, a moisturizing agent, a depilatory agent, an anti-nerve gas agent, a film forming agent, a vitamin, an insect repellant, a coloring agent, a pharmaceutical agent, a ligand-receptor complex and a receptor of a ligand-receptor complex.
- 12. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the agent is an enzyme that degrades nerve agents.
- 13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of a <u>organophosphorus acid anhydrolase</u> (OPAA) anhydrolase and squid type <u>organophosphorus acid (OPA)</u> anhydrase.

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20. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a compound of Formula I,

$$X_2 - L_2 - A - L_1 - X_1$$

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wherein A is an agent; L1 and L2 are independently selected organic linkers or bonds; X1 and X2

are reactive moieties independently selected from the Group A, $\begin{bmatrix} R & I & II & I \\ C & C & CH_2 \end{bmatrix}$

molecule; and

wherein L_2 and X_2 may be present or absent, however if L_2 is absent, then X_2 is also absent, and

a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Original) A kit comprising

a package housing:

a container containing the composition of claim 1, and instructions for use.

23-73. (Cancelled)

74. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the agent is a nonprotein.

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75. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein the compound does not comprise a microparticle.

- 76. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9, wherein X_1 , X_2 or X_1 and X_2 is dihydroxyacetone.
- 77. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical preparation of claim 20, wherein the agent is selected from the group consisting of a cosmetic agent, a bulking agent, a hair conditioning agent, a hair fixative, a sunscreen agent, a moisturizing agent, a depilatory agent, an anti-nerve gas agent, a film forming agent, a vitamin, an insect repellant, a coloring agent, a pharmaceutical agent, a ligand-receptor complex and a receptor of a ligand-receptor complex.